

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 OCTOBER 1983

Lebanon

Geneva Conference — On the eve of the National Dialogue Conference scheduled to open in Geneva on 31 October, Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens, in a statement reported by the Voice of Lebanon radio, responded to reports that the May 1983 Lebanese-Israeli agreement would be a major topic of discussion by stating that Israel considers any attempt to abrogate or change it "detrimental" to the security of both Israel and Lebanon. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir stated that if the agreement is canceled Israel will not be committed to withdraw from Lebanon, according to Jerusalem radio.

Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim told a news conference in Bern that he expects the agreement to be raised at the conference, adding that "the only way" is to consider the agreement frozen and to discuss means of withdrawal from Lebanon with Syria, Beirut radio reported. Salim said that President Amin al-Jumayyil, who is to chair the conference, "is open to all reforms and proposals that might be presented."

Meanwhile, portions of the working paper of the National Salvation Front and the Amal Movement were leaked in Bern, Beirut radio stated, adding that, besides calling for an end to "political sectarianism" and direct popular elections for the presidency, the Front will demand the cancellation of the Lebanon-Israel agreement. The deputy speaker of the Lebanese parliament, in a statement to KUNA, asserted that the agreement should be the focus of the conference because it was "the immediate reason" for the most recent outbreak of fighting in Lebanon.

Syrian diplomatic circles in Damascus cited by Radio Monte Carlo said that if the agreement were canceled, the "horror" of the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon would be revealed and Israel would be unable to continue control. The radio's sources also reaffirmed that the Syrian Government has expressed its commitment to withdraw from Lebanon as soon as Israeli forces are withdrawn and "provided that Israel does not realize any gains." In a cable to the conferees reported by Beirut radio, the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) maintained that the conference should "primarily" tackle the "liberation issue" and that any dialogue that disregards this issue or fails to define "serious and practical" steps to end the occupation of southern Lebanon would fulfill the plot aimed at "liquidating Lebanon."

In an interview with Swiss television quoted by Radio Monte Carlo, PSP leader Walid Junblatt predicted that the Phalange Party would offer no concessions at the conference. Claiming that President al-Jumayyil's government had been saved by "U.S. intervention," Junblatt stated that if he had to choose between a government supported by the United States and "a free Lebanon," he would "remain Syria's man."

Meanwhile, Saudi mediator Prince Bandar ibn Sultan 'Abd al-'Aziz told the French newspaper *Le Monde* that from all his talks with the parties to the conflict he concludes that "it will be easy to reach an agreement," AFP reported, because Al-Jumayyil will state that everything is negotiable and the president's adversaries will not question the legitimacy of the head of state, the Lebanese Constitution, or the national pact that divides governmental posts among the various Lebanese factions. The prince stated that only small amendments to secure a better balance of power among the factions will be discussed.

Soviet and U.S. officials have arrived in Geneva, the Voice of Lebanon reported, adding that it has information pointing to U.S.-Soviet agreement to ensure a successful conference. Meanwhile, Israel has sent a representative to Geneva to follow the conference, according to IDF Radio, while Saudi Arabia has sent Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud and its ambassador to Lebanon as observers, SPA stated. Syria will be represented by Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Damascus radio said, while various Beirut radio reports noted that "many Lebanese personalities" are in Geneva to attend.

Aftermath of Bombings — Justice Minister Roger Shaykhani has announced that "a number" of people are being held in connection with the investigations into the bombings of the U.S. Marine and French contingent headquarters, Beirut radio reported. The clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said Lebanese authorities have given the United States the names of 11 persons proved to be involved in the bombings and quoted Lebanese security sources as stating that before the bombings the drivers of both trucks met with Iranian Ad-Da'wah Party leader Shaykh Fadlallah, a Shi'ite who has broken away from the Amal Movement. The decision to bomb the U.S. and French contingents took place at a secret meeting in Damascus between President al-Asad and the Iranian deputy foreign minister, after which Al-Asad instructed Islamic Amal Movement leader Husayn al-Musawi to carry out the attacks, the French magazine *Le Nouvel Observateur* reported according to Radio Free Lebanon. Voice of Lebanon said the attackers were Iranian, Syrian, Lebanese, and Palestinian, adding that the Palestinian is the chief of the PFLP Operations Department.

Al-Jumayyil Arab Tour — President al-Jumayyil will visit Syria, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Morocco for consultations immediately after the National Dialogue Conference in Geneva, AFP reported citing an "authoritative" Lebanese source.

Italian Contingent — The mission of the Italian contingent will remain unchanged, the Italian defense minister confirmed at a press conference in Lebanon reported by Beirut radio.

Security Situation — Lebanese Army positions in the Suq al-Gharb area came under artillery fire over the weekend, according to Beirut radio. Although Jerusalem radio reported that the PSP has permitted around 1,000 Christian civilians to leave the besieged town of Dayr al-Qamar, Voice of Lebanon said circles close to Walid Junblatt have disclosed that the release will not take place until next week.

In another development, an Armenian terrorist was arrested after hurling hand grenades at the Turkish Embassy in Beirut, according to Beirut radio.

Syria

The Syrian Armed Forces launched long-range surface-to-surface missiles which hit their targets with "great accuracy" during live-ammunition military maneuvers reviewed by Defense Minister General Mustafa Talas, Damascus television reported on 29 October. At the end of the exercise, Talas stressed that the Syrian Army has been able to absorb "the sophisticated weapons" and called on Syrian soldiers to continue preparing for the "coming fateful battle." Syria and the Soviet Union have agreed that the SS-21 missiles can be used only in self-defense and the use of the missiles requires the prior approval of Soviet experts in Syria, according to diplomatic sources cited by the London weekly *Al-Majallah*.

Meanwhile, Damascus radio and Syrian papers cited by SANA expressed concern that the United States is planning to expand its military presence in Lebanon and strike at Syria. A radio report from Washington noted the possibility of U.S. retaliation for the Beirut explosions, either through assassination attempts against "elements" of the organizations held responsible or by airstrikes against bases belonging to these organizations in Ba'albak.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat sent an urgent appeal to CPSU General Secretary Yuriy Andropov to use Soviet influence to save northern Lebanon from the danger of warfare in light of Syrian concentrations aimed at the Palestinian camps there, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. Meanwhile, 'Arafat stated that he is ready to talk with Syria, North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio stated, reporting on an inspection tour 'Arafat made of PLO positions in northern Lebanon.

Fatah Central Committee member Sa'ah Khalaf criticized Syria's "dangerous" practices toward the PLO, according to Algiers Voice of Palestine radio. Khalaf, speaking in Algeria, also cited the Libyan "onslaught" against the Palestinian revolution, asserting that the Libyans had threatened to stop oil shipments to the PDRY if the Yemenis remain committed to the Palestinian revolution.

The chiefs of staff of the Palestine Liberation Army held an emergency meeting in Tunis, Baghdad Voice of PLO reported, at which they decided to reaffirm support for and commitment to the PLO under Yasir 'Arafat and to condemn Tariq al-Khadra's statement attacking 'Arafat's leadership as unrepresentative of "responsible Palestinians." Similarly, a statement

by the Central Committee of the Arab Liberation Front declared that "conspiracies" backed by Syria and Libya against the PLO Command only diminish the Palestinians' chances of achieving their legitimate rights and warned PFLP-General Command leader Ahmad Jibril against acting against the Palestinian people's interests, according to North Lebanon Voice of Palestine.

PLO deputy military commander Khalil Al-Wazir told the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Qabas* that all attempts by Arab and international parties to ease relations between Syria and the PLO have failed and that the road to reconciliation is blocked. On northern Lebanon, Al-Wazir contended that the military situation is good despite difficulties in logistics and supply, adding that over 1,500 fighters who were forced to withdraw from Lebanon following the Israeli invasion have returned and that some are on their way to join the Fatah forces in Tripoli.

A Palestinian spokesman in Tripoli cited by North Lebanon Voice of Palestine revealed that, in preparation for the attacks to be launched against Tripoli and the Nahr al-Barid and Al-Baddawi camps, Syria has established an operations room which is being organized by the commander of Syrian forces in the region; the head of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon; the commander of the Syrian-sponsored As-Sa'iqah forces; the PFLP-General Command; Fatah dissident Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha, also known as Abu Musa; and Palestine Liberation Army-Hittin Forces Colonel Tariq al-Khadra.

Iran-Iraq War

Summarizing Iran's gains in its most recent offensive in the northern sector, an Iranian commander told IRNA that the operation achieved all its objectives in 3 days, bringing many towns and villages in Iraq into firing range, suppressing "counter-revolutionary elements" and cutting their supply lines in northwestern Iran, and capturing heights commanding Panjwin and other strategic heights. In another report, IRNA disclosed that another Iraqi aircraft was shot down north of Marivan on 29 October. Iraqi military communiques broadcast by Baghdad and Voice of the Masses radios reported that some 5,000 Iranians were killed and many others wounded 25-30 October in the northern sector.

Israel

Former IDF Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan has formed a new political movement called TZOMET, the Movement for Renewed Zionism, Jerusalem television reported. In an interview with Jerusalem radio, Eytan stated that the new movement will not join any existing party, as he opposes such coalitions, though he sees an ideological affinity with the Tehiya movement.

In another development, Israel is "reconsidering" its objection to the U.S. plan to form a Jordanian rapid deployment force but will probably request compensation if such a force is formed, such as guarantees that the force will not operate against the IDF, that the U.S. freeze on support for development of the new Lavi aircraft will thaw, and that emergency depots for the 6th Fleet will be built in Israel, Jerusalem radio revealed.

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DRA 'Demands Occupationist Soldiers Leave Grenada'
LD281144 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Statement of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan] — BAKHTAR headline]

[Text] Kabul, Oct 27, (Bakhtar) — These days the people of the world witnessed another open intervention of the war-mongering and adventurist U.S. imperialism. Continuing its expansionist policies and relying on the military power produced over years and decades, this big imperialist power has subjected a small, sovereign and independent country, that is Grenada, and its defenceless people to criminal aggression and is out to occupy that country. The ruthless aggression against the independent Grenada by the war-mongering circles of the greatest imperialist power, which has resulted in great losses of life and property for the defenceless people of Grenada, has evoked the deep wrath and indignation of all the people of the world.

After the victory of revolution in Grenada the people of that country broke all bonds of dependence on imperialism which had plundered them for years on end and chose for themselves a social order which conformed to the desires of the people and ensured their progress and prosperity. The events which took place lately in that country were exclusively an internal matter of Grenada and nobody had or has the right to make these events a pretext for intervention in the internal affairs of that independent and sovereign country.

It is really ludicrous that the U.S. imperialism resorts to occupying militarily a small country while pretending as if it wanted to restore democracy there. It is only the special logic of the ruling war-mongering, adventurist imperialist circles of the United States which can justify invasion of a small country and shedding the blood of hundreds of its citizens by labelling it as an attempt to restore the rights.

Reports pouring out from Grenada indicate that the freedom-loving people of Grenada have put up a strong resistance against the foreign invaders and this resistance is still continuing. The patriotic resistance of the people of Grenada testifies to the fact that the heroic people of this small country, who had tasted the fruit of freedom after many years of oppressive sway of imperialism, are prepared to bravely defend their freedom against the aggression of the world's biggest imperialist power regardless of the inequality of their forces.

This open intervention of U.S. imperialism which comes in the wake of hundreds of other interventions and aggressions in different parts of the world has once again shown that the greed of the capitalists and the owners of military industries has no saturation point and that the imperialist superpower is ready to resort, wherever it finds that some country or nation is not obeying its diktat, to some new crime and to install after occupying that country puppet regime of its own which would defend its interest.

Already now the undeclared imperialist war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is being conducted under the leadership of U.S. imperialism. Armed aggression and other forms of intervention in Nicaragua are taking place everyday and the concentration of naval forces of the United States on the

eastern and western coasts of that country threatens the independence and sovereignty of Nicaragua. The intervention of U.S. imperialism in El Salvador, Lebanon, Chad and other regions of the world continues.

In reality the armed aggression against Grenada which is a member of the United Nations Organisation and an active member of the Non-aligned Movement is in flagrant violation of the U.N. Charter and all the accepted international principles and norms.

This aggression has once again made it clear that no small country in the world specially those who are also the members of Non-aligned Movement can feel immune against the danger of aggression and occupation by US imperialism.

The member countries of Non-aligned Movement and all the peace loving countries and forces are duty bound to search for fundamental ways for ending such aggressions and adventures of imperialism and finally preventing the flaring up of a war — specially the destructive nuclear war, because without it the destiny of no country can be secure against imperialist expansion and encroachments.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan which after the victory of liberatory April Revolution has been the target of the undeclared imperialist war especially by the U.S. imperialism condemns strongly the brutal aggression against and occupation of Grenada. The DRA demands that occupationist soldiers leave Grenada immediately and that possibilities be made available to the people of Grenada for resuming their normal and peaceful life.

Our solidarity will always be with the people of Grenada.

Keshtmand Says U.S. Intensifying Aid to Rebels
LD310025 Warsaw PAP in English 2043 GMT 30 Oct 83

[By PAP special correspondent Ryszard Piekarowicz]

[Text] Kabul 30 Oct — Afghan Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand charged on Sunday that the United States was intensifying its military assistance to Afghan rebels and stated that the undeclared war waged by the U.S. against his country was as unmasked as the American aggression on Grenada.

"Thousands of witnesses can confirm that the U.S. is supplying arms to Afghan counterrevolutionaries trained by Americans in eighty camps on the Pakistani territory. This is no secret. Anyway, the U.S. does not conceal it at all," Keshtmand told PAP and Polish daily *Rzeczpospolita* correspondents.

Foreign informed sources in Kabul estimate the value of arms and ammunition supplied by special U.S. services to Afghan counterrevolutionary groups at [figure indistinct] million dollars a month. This is accompanied by American financial [word indistinct], maintenance of training camps in Pakistan as well as financial aid from Saudi Arabia, Britain and other countries backing the counterrevolution.

The Afghan prime minister said that the rebels, by destroying schools, industrial enterprises, health centers and transport means, caused material losses totalling a half of all the outlays earmarked for the country's socio-economic development in the years 1958-1978, but he added that his government was taking steps to consolidate the economy and ensure its growth.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand also stated that even though Washington was increasing its support for counterrevolutionary gangs, the people were increasingly dissociating themselves from them seeing ever more clearly that they acted against the interest of the whole community. The prime minister underlined that the vital thing was that the social base of counterrevolution was shrinking.

Afghan prime minister recalled that more and more local rebel groups are putting down their arms voluntarily and even switching to the side of the government. He stated that the government ensures a place in the life of the country for those who have strayed but finally understood their mistake. However, the prime minister of Afghanistan added, we do not want a compromise with armed gangs which have their quarters in Pakistan, use foreign military aid and are an instrument of the U.S. and Pakistani government of General Ziaul Haq. We are fighting these groups, said the prime minister.

He also stated that he shared the view of the leader of the nonaligned movement Indira Gandhi concerning Afghanistan. "It is enough if the imperialist forces would stop supporting Afghan counterrevolutionaries," said the prime minister.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand condemned the American aggression against Grenada. He also stated that the Reagan administration was committing a grave crime against mankind by stepping up the arms race and deploying new nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

Official Maintains Elections Possible in 1984

LD282303 Warsaw PAP in English 1443 GMT 28 Oct 83

[By PAP special correspondent Ryszard Piekarowicz]

[Text] Nur Ahmad Nur, deputy chairman of Afghanistan's Revolutionary Council as well as Political Bureau member and CC secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, believes that the nation's first elections to local organs of state authorities can be held next year even if the rebellion is not completely put down by that time.

The aim is to make the whole of society participate in local government as soon as possible.

The Afghan elections will see no ballot boxes and the voters, most of them being illiterate, will elect their representatives by sitting during the Jirgah, an assembly called since ancient times by tribe or village elders to discuss important issues.

The candidates will be proposed by the National Patriotic Front, which was established by 1981. Afghan Revolutionary Council Chairman Babrak Karmal announced last March that those

elected councillors should be "the wisest, best informed and most righteous" men.

New Kabul Mayor Introduced 30 October

LD310636 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Zohur Razmjo, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the Kabul City Party Committee, this morning introduced the new Kabul Mayor, (Wali Mohammad Abdiani), to the personnel and workers of Kabul municipality.

Razmjo expressed appreciation for the services of Adina Sangin, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee and previous mayor of Kabul, who has been appointed head of the Economics Department of the PDPA Central Committee.

Western Media Describe Recent Fighting

SPA Report

LD281459 Riyadh SPA in English 1200 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Islamabad, Oct 28 (SPA) — During a mujahideen attack on Khost airport on October 24th, two Soviet helicopters were destroyed, rebel news agency, AFGHAN ISLAMIC PRESS (AIP) reported from Peshawar Thursday.

An AIP report said mujahideen fired rockets at Khost airport in eastern Afghanistan's Paktia Province, close to the Pakistan borders, and hit one armed helicopter gunship which exploded and damaged another nearby chopper.

In another report today AIP said 110 Afghan soldiers and fifteen army officers laid down their arms before the mujahideen on October 20 in Deh Bala area of Nangarhar Province, [figure indistinct] kilometers south of provincial capital Jalalabad.

Surrender, according to AIP, was affected through a clever ploy of an Afghan government army officer who was secretly in league with the mujahideen.

The unidentified officer had asked [as received] his troops stationed at Deh Bala that a large number of mujahideen were going to surrender and he advised patrolling units to let them in.

AIP said when the mujahideen went into the post they started their surprise attack with the result that all soldiers and officers except one officer and three militiamen who resisted were killed on the spot.

At the time of surrender, the mujahideen, according to AIP report, captured six howitzers, four heavy machineguns, 130 light weapons and other military supplies and ammunition.

Twenty Soviet tanks were destroyed and scores of Soviet-Afghan government troops were killed in week-long fighting mid-October in Panjwin in Afghanistan's south-eastern Qandahar Province, AIP reported today.

The communist forces had besieged the Panjwin town near Qanadhar after attacking three nearby villages of Kulchabad, Karz and Karezak [SPA spellings] and using tanks and canons to kill over 200 Afghan civilians, the agency added.

The mujahideen launched a counter-attack to break the siege and after a prolonged fierce fighting last week, they succeeded in making the communist forces retreat, the agency added. During the fighting, resistance ground fire hit a Soviet MIG aircraft which was seen burning in air.

Karachi Account

BK 300902 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
30 Oct 83

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, more than 100 Karmal regime soldiers, including 12 officers, have surrendered to the Afghan mujahidin in the Dehe Bala area, 25 km from Jalalabad. The mujahidin have also captured ammunition and other military equipment, including 6 mortars, 4 heavy machine-guns, and 130 light weapons.

According to another report, a fierce clash between the Soviet-Karmal forces and the mujahidin took place on the Kabul-Qandahar highway early this month. After the fighting, 20 Afghan soldiers joined the mujahidin, who also shot down a Soviet helicopter gunship.

There are reports of severe fighting in various other parts of Afghanistan as well.

Karachi Newspaper

GF310552 Karachi Jasarat in Urdu 17 Oct 83 P 16

[Text] Peshawar, 16 Oct (PPI) — In the Afghan Provinces of Qonduz and Nimruz, 90 government soldiers, 16 civilians, and 15 mujahidin were killed in recent clashes between the Afghan guerrilla mujahidin and Soviet-Karmal forces.

According to reports received, a large group of Soviet-Karmal troops was patrolling the (Gul Peta) area in Qonduz Province in search of draft-age young men when the Afghan guerrillas ambushed them. The Soviet-Karmal soldiers were traveling in tanks and armored vehicles. In a 3-hour-long fight, 50 government troops were killed or wounded while 3 mujahidin lost their lives.

Another clash occurred 7 km from the capital of Qonduz Province where government troops attacked a mujahidin position at dawn. In this fight the mujahidin forced the government soldiers to surrender, while 12 guerrillas were killed. The mujahidin guerrillas killed 100 government troops. Also killed in this fight were 60 civilians.

In (Kojak) in Nimruz Province, the guerrillas killed 40 government soldiers and lost 1 of their fighters.

According to another news report, in Farah Province, 8 women and children were killed in an attack by a MIG-23 and Soviet gunships.

Martial Law Official Warns Against Lawlessness*BK290932 Hong Kong AFP in English 0848 GMT 29 Oct 83*

[Text] Dhaka, Oct. 29 (AFP) — The Bangladesh Government will not hesitate to "suppress with strong hands" any attempt to create chaos, lawlessness, and indiscipline in the name of democracy, a deputy chief martial law administrator has cautioned several political parties which are planning a strike. Rear Admiral Mahboob Ali Khan told a public meeting in northern Rangpur district yesterday that attempts to generate chaos were being made in the name of democracy at a time when "speedy steps are under way to establish it (democracy)," the official news agency BSS said. He was referring indirectly to a half-day general strike called for Tuesday by 22 political parties to press their demands for lifting martial law and holding parliamentary elections prior to presidential polls announced by the government. He said that no decision would be considered because of "the plea of a handful of people... rather decisions would be taken the way people would want it."

Admiral Khan, who is Navy chief and minister for communication, reiterated the military government's plan of holding elections for the presidency some time in mid-1984 under the now-suspended constitution to avoid what he said were "constitutional complications." He said that unrestricted political activities would resume at a suitable time. BSS quoted Admiral Khan warning his audience against the proposed general strike and saying "anti-people efforts would be resisted."

Meanwhile another deputy chief martial law administrator, Energy Minister Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud told a workers rally in the southern port town of Khulna yesterday that the workers' community "must be vigilant against any machinations to create chaos and confusion disrupting peaceful atmosphere in the country." The rally was organised by the new swadhip (free) trade union federations, which is supporting the policies of the 18-month old military government of General Hussein Mohammad Ershad, who is on an official visit to the United States.

In a related matter, the weekly magazine *Holiday* in a leading article today said, "whatever may happen on November 1, the interplay of government and political forces on the occasion will greatly influence the future course of constitutional politics in the country." It said that against the backdrop of the government's "programme of civilisationisation," the political parties have "almost universally demanded that parliamentary elections be held first."

Delhi Reports Dhaka March Against Martial Law*BK310928 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 31 Oct 83*

[Text] In Bangladesh nearly 2,000 opposition leaders and students marched through the main streets of Dhaka yesterday raising slogans against the martial law. They were demanding elections for the country's Parliament early next year.

BSS Reports Upcoming Visits by UK Queen, Others*BK271011 Dhaka BSS in English 0935 GMT 27 Oct 83*

[Text] Dhaka, Oct 27 BSS — Foreign Minister of Bhutan, Mr Dawa Tsering, will visit Bangladesh sometime in the later half of November, it was announced here Wednesday. The Bhutanese minister is expected discuss bilateral relations and different international issues particularly the recently floated South Asian Regional Cooperation (SARC) with his Bangladesh counterpart, Mr A.R.S. Doha, it was learnt.

There will be three other important visits to Bangladesh next month — the dignitaries to visit Bangladesh in November are: Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh, President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia and Prime Minister Trudeau of Canada.

Briefs

New Gas Field — Dhaka, Oct 26, BSS — A new gas field with commercially viable reserves has been discovered in the south-eastern Sitakunda area, Energy Minister Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud said here Tuesday. He told newsmen after a visit to the drilling site that available scientific data clearly indicated existence of hydrocarbons but the probable reserve was yet to be estimated after further study. Bangladesh has a proven reserve of over ten trillion cubic feet of natural gas in 13 fields so far discovered. [Text][Dhaka BSS in English 0632 GMT 26 Oct 83 BK]

Mali Envoy Presents Credentials — Dhaka, Oct 27 BSS — The new ambassador of Mali to Bangladesh, Mr Boubacar Toure, presented his credentials to President Assanuddin Chowdhury here Wednesday. At the ceremony, the ambassador referred to the existing friendly relations between Mali [and] Bangladesh which were bound by cultural and religious ties and hoped those will be further consolidated in the future years to the mutual benefits of the two peoples. The envoy also conveyed to President Assanuddin the greetings of the president of the Republic of Mali. [Text][Dhaka BSS in English 0937 GMT 27 Oct 83 BK]

Japanese Loan Pledge — Dhaka, Oct 28 BSS — Japan has promised to provide Bangladesh a loan worth 27.5 billion yen as commodity and project assistance for financial year 1983, it was announced here Thursday. Out of this amount, over 16 billion yen would be utilised by the Bangladesh Government to procure industrial commodities while the residue will be used for implementation of the Kaptai hydroelectric power project. The loans [as received] will be made available after the two governments sign the relevant exchange of notes within the next few months, it was learnt. [Text][Dhaka BSS in English 1115 GMT 28 Oct 83 BK]

Nonaligned Meeting on Palestine Opens 30 October*BK301010 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Oct 83*

[Text] The external affairs minister has expressed concern over continuous deterioration of the situation in West Asia. He was opening the 2-day official level meeting of the Nonaligned Committee on Palestine in New Delhi today.

Mr Rao said the recent tension in West Asia has not come unexpectedly, but its cumulative effect has been to render more intractable the entire problem and to weaken the forces of peace and stability in the region. He stressed the need for a comprehensive rather than a piecemeal approach to the question. This perspective was underlined in the New Delhi nonaligned summit, he added.

Mr Rao said there is also consensus within the movement on the basic issues pertaining to Palestine and West Asia. He said the beginning of any peace effort will have to be the establishment of an Arab consensus and this has already been worked out at the Arab summit in Fes. There (?had) also been various other proposals put forward in this regard. But what is most essential is the initiation of a process of discussion which will cover the entire complex of issues raised at the Arab summit conference. It also helped in the evolution of a realistic peace process leading to independent statehood of the Palestinian people.

The meeting is being held in pursuance of the mandate given in the political declaration of the nonaligned summit held in New Delhi this year. It is preparatory in nature, at which senior officials of eight nonaligned countries, including India, are taking part.

Nonaligned Bureau Communique on Grenada Reported*BK291125 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 Oct 83*

[Excerpt] Cuba has announced that it intends to call for an emergency session of the UN General Assembly to discuss the American intervention in Grenada. The Foreign Ministry said that Cuba will not recognize any government established on the Caribbean island by the foreign military force. Earlier, the Cuban deputy foreign minister said that relations between his country and the United States are now at their lowest point ever. He said this is because Cubans are fighting American troops directly for the first time.

The Nonaligned Movement has, meanwhile, condemned the armed intervention in Grenada. In a communique issued last night at the United Nations, the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces from the island. Without naming the United States, the communique said the armed intervention constituted a flagrant violation of international law. The overwhelming view of the Bureau meeting was that the movement should take a firm stand on the developments in Grenada.

Reportage on Border Talks With PRC**'Mini Plenary' Held***OW290137 Hong Kong AFP in English 2243 GMT 28 Oct 83*

[Text] New Delhi, Oct. 28 (AFP) — India and China held a "mini plenary" meeting today in the official level talks between the two countries now in progress here to discuss the border dispute.

An Indian Foreign Office spokesman told reporters the mini plenary was an expanded boundary group, with the leaders of the two delegations taking part.

The boundary group was one of the four separate ones set up, after the talks began Monday, to deal with different subjects relating to bilateral relations. The other three groups are on cooperation in trade, science and technology and culture.

The current talks, the fourth round since 1981, primarily concerned with the long-standing border dispute, are to conclude tomorrow.

All the four groups resumed the discussions today after a two-day break when the visiting delegation toured the Taj Mahal town of Agra and some other places of ancient Indian cultural importance.

The spokesman said the Chinese delegation, led by Vice-Foreign Minister Gong Dafei, had a separate meeting with Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao in the afternoon exchanging views "on matters of common interest" with him for about an hour. He gave no details.

Rao, PRC Delegation Meet*BK281319 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 28 Oct 83*

[Text] The visiting Chinese delegation called on the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, in New Delhi today. They exchanged views on matters of common interest for nearly an hour.

Talks Extended*BK291557 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Oct 83*

[Text] The talks between Indian officials and the visiting Chinese delegation in New Delhi have been extended by another day. The talks, which were to conclude today, are likely to end tomorrow. The two sides are discussing the boundary question and cooperation in various fields like science and technology.

'Reasonable Progress' Cited*BK301621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Oct 83*

[Text] The week-long Sino-Indian talks concluded in New Delhi today with agreement on some of the principles that should be

taken into account toward the settlement of the boundary issue. The spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said there was reasonable progress and the discussions were held in an extremely friendly atmosphere. China has agreed to India's suggestion for a sector-wise examination of the boundary to help evolve a comprehensive settlement. Both sides also agreed that historical evidence, custom and tradition and geographical features should be relevant for determining the boundary question. Another outcome was the agreement on the inadmissibility of the use of force to settle the boundary problem.

The spokesman said that the two sides agreed to consider all the proposals put forward by either side and to distill the essence of principles that should govern the settlement of the boundary problem. He said that there was no particular conflict of views and a great deal of common ideas have emerged from the discussion. Both sides were encouraged to extend the talks for 1 more day. The discussions were to conclude yesterday. The spokesman said that the next round of talks will be resumed at Beijing next year.

Referring to the other aspects of the talks, the spokesman said there has been some progress in regard to trade and economic relations, cultural exchanges and cooperation in the fields of science and technology. For the first time, officials of the two sides exchanged views and perceptions on global issues and those of the region.

The All-India Radio correspondent says the results of the current round of talks can be considered a step forward. The last three rounds of discussions have been rather unproductive with both sides sticking to their positions.

The current round of official level talks began on Monday. The Indian delegation was led by Mr K.S. Bajpai, secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, and the Chinese team by the vice foreign minister, Mr Gong Dafei.

Prime Minister Arrives in Punjab To Review Situation *BK290858 Hong Kong AFP in English 0837 GMT 29 Oct 83*

[By Joel Henri]

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Oct 29 (AFP) — Two people were killed and two others wounded in Amritsar today as Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, escorted by 5,000 federal police, arrived in the Punjab capital, Chandigarh, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported. Nine hundred Sikh militants have been arrested in the past 36 hours in the strategic Punjab state, which Mrs Gandhi is visiting for the first time since a state of emergency was declared there 20 days. [as received]

Her trip, to review the situation there with Punjab Governor B.D. Pande, follows another fierce exchange of fire on the Indo-Pakistani border in the Poonch sector of Kashmir state further north. No victims were reported from the incident, the third in a month, PTI said.

Mrs Gandhi is due back here tonight from Chandigarh, the capital Punjab shares with neighbouring Haryana state.

The two killers, suspected of being Sikh autonomists, disappeared on a motorbike after shooting their victims with sub-machine guns, it added.

The Punjab parliament and government were dissolved and the state, which borders Pakistan, placed under central rule following the assassination of eight Hindu Punjabis by Sikh extremists early this month.

More than 10,000 federal police troops have been deployed in the Punjab and given wide powers, including permission to shoot on sight anybody considered a threat to public order. In the past two years, more than 250 Sikh militants and policemen, according to official figures, have died in the Sikh-dominated Punjab.

Police continued their search in several villages in Faridkot District, less than 40 km (25 miles) from the Pakistani border, PTI reported. They said they had already seized about 50 weapons of various sorts and 150 cartridges in raids so far.

New Delhi has several times accused Pakistan of supplying arms to Sikh militants campaigning for creation of an independent state "Khalistan." Diplomatic sources consider the accusations, which Islamabad denies, improbable. Most of the arms seized are from Indian depots plundered by Sikh commandos or are locally made. Violence in the Indian Punjab and the Pakistani state of Sind is partly responsible for a recent deterioration in relations between New Delhi and Islamabad, observers said.

Gandhi Activities Reported

BK291305 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The prime minister has called for a countrywide campaign to involve the youth in national reconstruction. Mrs Gandhi was inaugurating the silver jubilee celebrations of the D.A.V. College in Chandigarh today. She said those receiving higher education are rather a privileged class and they have special responsibility toward the nation.

Earlier, the prime minister inaugurated the Second International Roma Festival. She praised the Roma people for their courage, endurance, and strength of the human spirit. She expressed the hope that the festival would strengthen deeprooted ties between India and the Roma people. She also released two books on Jawaharlal Nehru.

Punjab Tribunal Suggested

BK291625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Oct 83

[Text] The prime minister has said that the government is prepared to refer the Punjab tangle to a tribunal. But, she made it clear that delinking Chandigarh from other territorial issues is not possible. Mrs Gandhi was addressing a meeting of Congress-I workers in Chandigarh this evening.

Referring to the allegation that some antisocial elements are taking shelter in some religious places in the state, she said those

who claim it to be incorrect should at least get their claim verified from an independent agency if they do not want the police to do so. She said she will be too happy if they are proved to be correct. Mrs Gandhi pointed out that she is always prepared to seek a solution to a problem through negotiations. But at the same time, violent activities cannot be allowed to go unchecked. She said that for her, the integrity and the honor of the country is above all considerations. An amicable solution to a problem can be one which satisfies all the parties involved.

Accusing the opposition of inconsistency in their stand, she said that they say different things on different occasions. She pointed out that no individual or a group can be held responsible for the Punjab problem. But certainly those who start the agitation cannot escape responsibility. She said the Akali Dal in Punjab and students in Assam did not pay any heed when they were told that things will go out of their control. But the subsequent events, she said, have proved that she was right.

The prime minister made it clear that the center treats all states on equal footing. But, she regretted that some states governed by opposition parties are not properly utilizing the allocated funds. Mrs Gandhi was presented a saropa [sword], shawl, and prasad [food offered to devotees] on behalf of the Nihang [Sikh sect] chief, Baba Santa Singh, at the meeting.

Mrs Gandhi has returned to New Delhi.

Longowal Refuses Offer

*BK301310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
30 Oct 83*

[Text] The Akali Dal president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, has turned down Mrs Gandhi's offer to set up a tribunal to settle the territorial claims between Haryana and Punjab. Talking to newsmen in Amritsar, he claimed that the Akali Dal has full control over the party and the agitation. He said the Akali demands are justified.

Special Envoy Invited To Resume Talks in Colombo

*BK281325 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
28 Oct 83*

[Text] A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry confirmed today that an invitation has been received from Sri Lanka, asking

the prime minister's special envoy, Mr G. Parthasarathy, to go to Colombo for resuming talks aimed at finding a solution to the island's ethnic problem. The precise date of Mr Parthasarathy's departure will be finalized shortly. He has already held talks with President Jayewardene and other Sri Lankan leaders in Colombo during the last week of August.

Tibetans Demonstrate Outside Chinese Embassy

*BK291555 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
29 Oct 83*

[Text] Police used tear gas to disperse a group of Tibetans outside the Chinese Embassy in New Delhi today when they tried to break the cordon and resorted to stone throwing. A number of policemen and some Tibetans are reported to have been injured. About 200 Tibetans were taken into custody.

Kashmir Minister Denies Sheltering 'Extremists'

*BK301606 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
30 Oct 83*

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir chief minister, Mr Farooq Abdullah, has denied the allegation of the pradesh [state] Congress-I president, Mr Mufti Mohammad Said, that the extremists in Punjab were given shelter and training in the state. He told newsmen in Srinagar that he has no knowledge of any such training camp being held there. The state information minister, Mr Mohammad Shafi, has also denied the charge.

Venkataraman Leaves for Tour of West Europe

*BK301322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT
30 Oct 83*

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Venkataraman, left New Delhi today on a 2-week tour of France, Britain, Sweden, and Austria. In Paris, he will hold talks with his French counterpart on Indo-French cooperation in the defense field. During his stay in other countries, he will hold talks on bilateral matters with his counterparts.

Commentary on 'U.S.-Led Invasion' of Grenada*BK290946 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT
29 Oct 83**[Fazal Qureshi commentary]*

[Text] In line with the principled stand it has always taken about foreign military interventions in affairs of another state, especially by big powers against smaller entities, Pakistan has deplored the U.S.-led invasion of the small nonaligned eastern Caribbean country of Grenada and has called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces from that country.

Speaking in the 15-member Security Council on Wednesday, the Pakistan ambassador to the United Nations, Mr S. Shahnawaz, expressed Pakistan's deep concern over the event and declared that such actions aggravated the very situation which external intervention sought to redress. Besides, it inflicted immense tragedy on the countries which were the object of such intervention. He refused to accept the plea for the invasion put up by the United States that it was intended to protect American citizens in Grenada and to help restore democratic institutions there. He also failed to see any justification for the invasion as used by some Caribbean nations that Grenada had acquired disproportionate military capability with foreign help.

He went on to point out that Pakistan had always upheld the principle of nonuse of force and nonintervention and noninterference in the internal affairs of states, which (?flowed) from the Charter of the United Nations. He also informed the council that Pakistan had consistently condemned the violation of these principles no matter by whom and wherever they have occurred. Mr Shahnawaz said that intervention by powerful states in the internal affairs of smaller neighboring countries to promote their national interest and regional and global strategic objective only worsens the situation.

In this connection, he pointed out that 4 years ago when the Soviet Union had taken similar action against neighboring Afghanistan, Pakistan had firmly opposed it and warned of the dangers to the regional stability and world peace and security. Pakistan regarded it then and regards it now as a dangerous precedent and a threat to all nations, particularly those which live in the shadow of great powers.

Mr Shahnawaz, therefore, held that consistent with its position Pakistan could not condone the military intervention in Grenada and joined the demand for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces from that country. The principle of nonuse of force and nonintervention could not be espoused or affirmed on a selective basis, he asserted. The fact is that Pakistan has unequivocally and firmly opposed any intervention, especially military intervention in the affairs of other states wherever and whenever it has happened. It stands totally against any notion that any state had any right to do so whatever the excuse or excuses that may be ascribed to such a high-handed and immoral act. It believes that every nation has an inalienable right to live in independence and in sovereignty, to mold its destiny in the light of its own beliefs and postulates and to manage its own affairs by itself without any external pressure or [word indistinct]. It holds that any action seeking to ban the policies pursued by smaller

states in order to bring them in line with their thinking and perspective of the bigger powers is indefensible. That is specially so when it is sought to be done through military intervention or use of force.

Pakistan has maintained that the principles it holds inviolable are as applicable to the case of Afghanistan, which witnessed and continues to witness the effect of foreign military intervention in its affairs, as to the case of Kampuchea. In the case of these two countries Pakistan has unequivocally condemned as reprehensible the action by certain foreign powers and has made a clear-cut demand that foreign powers involved must withdraw their armed forces forthwith without any preconditions.

In the case of Grenada too, Pakistan cannot look with equanimity [as heard] at the development of a similar situation and views the foreign intervention there with an equal degree of distaste, concern, and horror.

UN Spokesman Cited on Afghanistan Negotiations*BK301536 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT
30 Oct 83*

[Text] A UN spokesman today categorically denied reports that the under secretary general, Diego Cordovez, wants to be relieved of his duties as the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan. The spokesman added that the secretary general, Mr Perez de Cuellar, and Mr Cordovez will begin their efforts anew during the debate on Afghanistan in mid-November to create a strong basis for continuing negotiations in this regard.

MASHRIQ Comments on Soviet Strategy in Afghanistan*GF291355 Karachi Mashriq in Urdu 29 Oct 83 p 3**[Editorial: "Soviet Strategy in Afghanistan"]*

[Text] The observers analyzing the Soviet strategy in Afghanistan have started saying that the Soviet Union is no longer interested in the indirect talks on the Afghan question. It is for this reason that the next stage of talks is not being decided upon.

One cannot say that this analysis is totally wrong. In fact, there are signs which support this view. The last stage of talks ended last June and UN Secretary General [as published] Mr Cordovez said that he would be visiting Kabul and Islamabad toward the end of summer so that he could give definite shape to the results of the talks already held.

However, the Karmal administration played a ruse and, as a result, Mr Cordovez expressed his inability to abide by the program of his visit to the area. Later it was thought that arrangements for the next talks might be discussed during the General Assembly meeting, but the meetings between Mr Cordovez and the Afghan foreign minister did not produce any meaningful result. Now it has been learned that dates for the visit of Mr Cordovez may be fixed by the middle of November when the meetings of the General Assembly are scheduled to take place.

Nothing can be said at present because the Afghan foreign minister, at the instance of the Soviet Union, is bound to dilly-dally on the issue. Even if the next stage of the talks materializes, it is not clear if it will serve any useful purpose. Pakistan thinks that at present the most important question is the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Afghanistan and the timetable of the withdrawal. But the Soviet Union does not appear to be ready for this. The talks which have been held so far have resulted only in coming to an understanding on the modus operandi of implementing some decisions which had been made at the last talks. Mr Cordovez has been trying to reach an understanding under which Soviet troops could gradually leave Afghanistan, the Afghan refugees could be provided for noninterference from outside in the Afghanistan affairs, and Afghans could be given an opportunity to decide their own future. The parties have agreed in principal to such an understanding, but the Soviet Union is not prepared to fix a timetable for the withdrawal of its forces.

The fact is that the Soviet Union had agreed to these talks under certain circumstances. First, the Soviet Union had come under great pressure from world opinion on its military intervention and it had agreed to these talks merely to lessen the pressure. Second, the Soviet Union wanted time to bring the situation in Afghanistan to its own liking and it was of the opinion that it would be able to control the situation in Afghanistan before the talks could reach any final decision. But in this it was proved wrong because, in spite of two long sessions of talks, it could not bring the situation in Afghanistan to such a turn that it could express its readiness to set a timetable for the withdrawal of its forces. It is on this ground that the Soviet Union is dilly-dallying on the issue and is adopting half-hearted measures.

We think that the Soviet Union should have realized by now that it cannot crush the resistance movement of the Afghan people, however lengthy the talks may be, and that its puppet government will not become strong enough to run the country without the presence of the Soviet Army. If the Soviet Union has kept its nerve in the matter of Afghanistan, the Afghan people also are fully determined in their crusade to oust the Soviet forces from their country. History also supports this view that however powerful an army may be it cannot crush the freedom spirit of a people. Therefore, the Afghan people will keep their nerve until the Soviet Army gets fed up with its useless efforts to suppress the Afghan people. Moreover, pressure from world opinion will also continue to prey heavily on them. This matter will become clear during the General Assembly talks on the Afghan issue which are due to be held by the middle of November. We think that the Soviet Union will not be able to bear for long the burden of the hostile world opinion and the resistance movement of the Afghan people. It is bound to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan after it obtains international assurances of nonintervention in Afghanistan from any foreign source.

The Soviet Union has so far been living on its logic that it intervened in Afghanistan to save it from foreign intervention and that if foreign intervention ends today, the Soviet Union will forthwith withdraw its forces from Afghanistan. This logic has been rejected by a majority of world nations because the Afghan resistance movement cannot be labelled as foreign intervention and these freedom-seekers are not tools of any imperialist force.

They are fighting for the liberation of their country and the dreadful Soviet Army has not been able to crush their determined spirit during the last 4 years. Therefore, the Soviet Union should realize that even if the talks are prolonged, it will not be able to turn the situation in Afghanistan in its favor and thus will become fed up and will be compelled to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan.

Political Leader Says Sind Situation Worsening

GF281200 Karachi Dawn in English 24 Oct 83 p 6

[Text] Multan, Oct 23: A leader of the defunct Jamiat-ul-Ulema-i-Islam Maulana Abdullah Darkhwasti has said that small problems are assuming serious proportions which could harm the country.

Talking with his party workers at Bahawalpur, the other day, he said that some political parties were busy having talks with the Government, but only dialogues were not sufficient. He said outcome of these dialogues should be implemented.

The Maulana said he could not understand that in what capacity the political parties were having dialogues with the Government when there are restrictions on political activities.

Referring to the situation prevailing in Sind, he said it was worsening and to control it restoration of political process was essential.

NAWA-E WAQT Requests Elections on Party Basis

GF291342 Karachi Nawa-e Waqt in Urdu 24 Oct 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Please Reconsider Decision on Nonparty Elections]

[Excerpts] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq has stressed that the members of the Majlis-e-Shoora should review their demand for elections on a party basis which they mentioned in their recommendations for a future political setup. He was speaking at a recent session of the council, during which he spoke about his meetings with the leaders of defunct political parties.

The president has openly admitted that all the leaders of the defunct political parties have insisted upon elections on a party basis, which he said was natural since they all belong to political parties. The president's personal preference for elections on nonparty basis is no secret as he has always advocated his partiality toward this and has repeatedly recommended it. It would not be incorrect to say that he is adamant about this, and despite the forceful demand of all the defunct political parties and the unanimity of his Majlis-e-Shoora and its recommendations, he insists that the elections should be held on a nonparty basis.

The importance of the demand by political parties for elections on a party basis can be gauged by the strident demand for the restitution of the status of the political parties. This issue was left ambiguous in the president's 12 August address, which indicates that he did not want to reject it summarily, despite his personal

preference. He has adopted the course of keeping in mind the opinions of others and the path of negotiations open, which is a very commendable policy.

In light of the above, it does not seem out of place to request most respectfully that the president should review his opinion, especially since all the parties are demanding elections on a party basis.

Delhi: Opposition Figures Expelled From Baluchistan
BK300917 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
30 Oct 83

[Text] In Pakistan, the president of the Jamaat-i-Islami Party was expelled from Baluchistan yesterday. According to party sources, Mian Tufail Mohammad was expelled in retaliation against the demand of an elected democratic rule. Earlier, the military administration of the province had rearrested the president of the Pakistan National Party, Mr Ghaus Bizenjo, after he had escaped from his house arrest.

SRI LANKA

Eleven Tamil MP's Lose Seats in Parliament*BK301358 Colombo The Sun in English 21 Oct 83 p 1*

[Excerpts] Eleven members of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] — the biggest opposition group in Parliament — ceased to be members of Parliament yesterday, after they failed to take their oaths disavowing separatism.

They are the front's President, M. Sivasithamparam (Nallur), Secretary General and opposition leader, A. Amirthalingam (Kankesanthurai), T. Rasalingam, (Udupiddy), K. P. Ratnam (Kayts), V. Yogeswaran (Jaffna), Dr Neelan Tiruchelvam (Vadukoddai), V. N. Navaratnam (Chavakachcheri), V. Anandasangary (Killinochchi) V. M. Sellathambu (Mullaitivu), P. S. Soosaidasan (Mannar) and P. Ganeshalingam (Padiruppu).

Two more members of the TULF — K. Thurairatnam (Point Pedro) and M. Alalusunderam (Kopay) will lose their seats if they do not take their oaths on or before October 28. This is because Parliament had previously granted three months leave for these two members. It is to expire on this date.

Earlier three TULF members — R. Sampanthan (Trincomalee), V. Dharmalingam (Manipay) and T. Sivasithamparan (Vavuniya) lost their seats after their continued absence from Parliament.

The vacation of the TULF seats will result in Mr Amirthalingam losing his status of leader of the opposition.

Commissioner of Elections Chandrananda de Silva told *Sun* that although the TULF had been asked to nominate representatives for the vacant seats, no response has been made by them.

He said that there was still time to nominate representatives for the Vavuniya and Manipay seats, but as no nomination was made for the Trincomalee seat a by-election would be held.

SUN Reports Tamil Terrorists Trained in India*BK301403 Colombo The Sun in English 18 Oct 83 p 1*

[By *Sun* defense correspondent]

[Excerpt] The Security Forces yesterday made one of their biggest breakthroughs in the probe on military training of northern terrorists in secret bases in Tamil Nadu, when they arrested a hardcore terrorist at a hideout in Nelliaddi near Point Pedro.

The arrest of 21-year-old M. Nagulendran yesterday provided the Lankan authorities with convincing "inside information" about highly organised military training facilities the northern terrorists have in secret camps in Tamil Nadu.

Sun learns that he was one of the 25 youths who have completed a six-month training course in one of the camps and returned to Lanka a few days ago. These youths are being sent in batches of 20 or 25 by their local contacts.

The terrorist now in custody is a frontline member of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Army which was led by Kuttimani some time ago. Its present leader is Shri Sabaratnam who is believed to be now in exile in Madras and is responsible for the organisation of the training programmes for terrorists.

The intelligence service has also obtained hitherto unknown details about the military training that is being given to a large number of disgruntled youths sent en masse to these camps which are run by rival terrorist groups.

The secret camp is located at Vadapalai a few miles away from the Meenambakam airport. Youths in batches of about 50 participate in the six-month long intensive military training programme. The course [is] conducted by Indian experts led by one Narasingha Verma, a retired Subadar major who once belonged to a crack commando unit. The course includes arduous guerrilla drill, use of sophisticated weapons and even battlecraft.

What has baffled the intelligence and security experts here is how the terrorist suspect Nagulendran had achieved so high a level in guerrilla warfare within a very short period. In fact he could handle some of the weapons in the same way as a highly trained soldier in the regular army. He has expert know-how in the use of Soviet made AK-47 automatic guns.

Sun learns that a large number of northern youths have already had such training courses in clandestine camps in Tamil Nadu. Defence Ministry sources have evidence to prove that these highly trained youths, once they return, establish their own revolutionary cells in various parts of North and East. They then conduct their own training camps and military indoctrination. Security sources also believe that these youths have established links with revolutionary groups and extremists in the south.

Libyan Envoy Denies Any Connection With Terrorists*BK301321 Colombo Daily News in English 21 Oct 83 p 1*

[Text] The Libyan envoy in Sri Lanka yesterday denied that his country had any connection with the northern terrorist movement.

Ibrahim S. Ajbali, Acting Secretary of the People's Bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Jamahiriyyah said his government was "surprised" by the allegations of Libyan links with terrorists.

"We greatly respect the people and government of Sri Lanka, and do not want to interfere in your internal affairs," he said.

He stressed that Sri Lanka and Libya have "very good relations" and hoped it would not be undermined by these "stories."

DAILY NEWS Says 'Refugee Camps' Still Hold 23,000
BK301331 Colombo Daily News in English 19 Oct 83 p 1

[By William de Alwis]

[Text] There are 23,000 still in the refugee camps established after the disturbances of July. The majority belong to the stateless class who nurse the hope that they will leave the camps only after they have been given a passport to India.

"It's a hopeless hope," Commissioner General of Essential Services, Mr Bradman Weerakoon, said yesterday. In the context of what has been happening and statements made by Mrs Indira Gandhi, it would be far better for these people to go back to their homes in Sri Lanka, taking full advantage of incentives being offered by the government.

Mr Weerakoon, who was disclosing a new package of incentives aimed at clearing the camps — termed "welfare centres" — said that of 3,000 families in Colombo two-thirds were stateless, while 95 percent of those in the centres in the North belonged to the same class.

The package of incentives the government has approved has been communicated to all now resident in the camps. It offers outright grants which will enable them to repair their homes and set themselves up in their former trades. Those entitled to this allowance belong to the class who can repair their homes within rupees 2,000, and traders whose total stock in trade does not exceed rupees 1,500.

The incentives are being offered in the expectation that the camps in Colombo and the outstations could finally be cleared. Most of those in Colombo now occupy schools which will have to be handed back to the students at least in time for the first term of 1984, Mr Weerakoon said.

At a rough estimate the present cost of maintaining these people is in the region of rupees 7.5 million per month if the provision of food and other amenities were to cost a minimum of rupees 10 per person.

Musavi Comments on Forthcoming Elections

LD300956 Tehran IRNA in English 0905 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Tehran, Oct 30, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi Sunday said that the forthcoming general elections for the Majlis (parliament) will be held in a free atmosphere but warned that the warfront will not be allowed to be weakened in the name of "freedom."

The second general elections of the Majlis are to be held next year. The Interior Ministry is yet to announce the date of the elections but it is presumed that the nation of the Islamic Iran will cast vote somewhere in the first quarter of the next year.

Talking to a reporter of morning Persian daily *Jomhuri-ye Eslami* (Islamic Republic) the prime minister said the people will welcome the general elections as usual.

During the last four years the Iranian nation went to the polls several times following the culmination of the Islamic revolution. According to the official records the voting was overwhelming all the times. Even the international media admitted on the unusually high record of voting in these elections.

Jomhuri-ye Eslami, organ of the Islamic Republic Party (IRP), quoted the prime minister as saying that the government is responsible for making the provision for holding the elections smoothly.

Musavi, who is also member of the IRP and was himself editor of *Jomhuri-ye Eslami* before taking over as premier, criticized the liberals and said they were paving the way for the United States. He said, "Their (liberals) case is clear and they know that the people will never give vote to them."

He said, "If the liberals make themselves candidates for the general elections, we will honour the votes whatever they will receive."

"We will honour the verdict of the people on this issue," he declared.

The liberal group in Iran is affiliated to the West and believes that the country should cooperate with the U.S.-led West in its overall policy including political and economic affairs.

On the contrary the Islamic Republic of Iran believes in neither East nor West and follows an independent policy in all its economic and political [word indistinct].

The prime minister Saturday completed second year of his premiership. On this occasion giving few details of future plan of his government, he said efforts will be made to mobilise all forces in the country to achieve victory in the war.

The Ba'athist regime of Iraq imposed the war on the Islamic Republic of Iran which is now in its fourth year. The prime minister said the war issue will receive priority attention of his government.

Commenting on the five-year development plan of the country the prime minister said that agricultural sector will be on the top of the priority list of the government attention.

He said 20 industrial projects of national importance will be paid due attention in the future plan of the government. They are included [as received] the petrochemical complex which is under construction at Bandar Khomeyni port with the collaboration of Japan and Ahvaz steel complex, south of Iran.

On social front, the prime minister said all efforts will be made to eradicate drug trafficking from the country. He said due attention will also be paid on the higher education in the country.

The prime minister said that government has no intention to take over commercial activities except in certain cases where it is really necessary.

He blasted the critics and said, "If the government controls the prices of essential goods they (critics) say the government is interfering and if the government supervises the distribution of major commodities the critics say that it has leftist or extremist policy."

But, the prime minister said, the government feels its responsibility for making the provision of war expenditures, implementation of the development projects and, security in the country and also making provision for day-to-day life of the people.

Musavi Meets With Khomeyni, Discusses Security Council

LD301148 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi was received in audience by Imam Khomeyni, leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

After his audience, the prime minister briefed our correspondent on topics discussed in the presence of the imam. We draw your attention to this interview:

[Begin recording][Musavi] I reported to the imam on my recent trip to North Korea and issues relating to our bilateral ties. Apart from the topics already mentioned, there were issues relating to the government and other issues that the government has been encountering that were explained to the imam, and I was accorded with and given the imam's directives.

[Correspondent] Would you please express your view regarding the proposed resolution currently under review at the Security Council?

[Musavi] We regard the Security Council as where the superpowers have the last word and therefore — against the background of our thoughts and views — the council contrasts completely with the basis of our thoughts. We cannot consider ourselves under any obligation regarding the council's decisions as long as the big powers hold to their dominant position there. We basically

launched our revolution to fight oppressors, we launched our movement to counter arrogance. Among the principles of the Revolution of the Islamic Republic, campaigning against oppressors is a basic task. Against such a background, how can we obey a body in which five countries sit at the top and try to impose their views on others. Therefore, neither the council nor its decisions can be accepted by us. So far, the council has proved that it is only supporting the big powers' interests and we have seen the Security Council's mediations in the past on issues relating to Israel, the Congo, and other oppressed nations. We know how the council has failed to take a single step in the interests of oppressed nations and its decisions have always been in the interests of big powers.

However, whatever they decide to pronounce, as far as we are concerned, we will only pursue the line in accordance with the interests of our Islamic Revolution. We are assured that what we do is demanded by all the Muslim as well as peace-loving nations of the world, and we do not care about their governments. [end recording]

President Khamene'i Criticizes Supporters of Iraq

LD282237 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Friday prayers today were held throughout the country with the millions of Muslim people of Iran attending. The hezbollahi and vigilant people of Tehran, together with other God-fearing compatriots, took part in the Friday prayers held at Tehran University, led by Hojjat ol-Islam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Friday imam of Tehran.

Referring to policy adopted by the supporters of Saddam to save Baghdad's regime, the Tehran Friday imam said:

[Begin recording] From West to East, everyone is trying to save Baghdad's regime, led today by France and America. But others have taken the issue to the UN Security Council. The main aim of this resolution is to salvage Saddam's regime by forcing themselves against the just demands of the Iranian people. Of course, we do not expect the UN Security Council to behave otherwise. How can the Security Council rule in a just manner and see that justice is done? In a place where America and France have the right of veto and the big powers are supervising the show, no one should expect any development other than against the Iranian nation's interests and rights.

Since the commencement of the war, Iraq's attacks have been accompanied by propaganda cries. Those attacks were launched and were accompanied by international propaganda and publicity. Now I must state parenthetically: Saddam is complaining about why we have given such prominence to the Val-Fajr IV operation. After all, he says, this was not an important triumph.

It is our nation's right; it has been able to take another step toward securing its rights; a positive step during which we have been able to weaken your morale and put pressure on you. It is our right to be delighted. Our people must repeat what they have done and must be honored by what they have done.

Saddam entered our territory in a coarse and cruel manner with a hue and cry. They captured Khorramshahr, brought the cities under their fire. The UN Security Council made no noise whatsoever, the council made no objection. Even the Iraqis confessed that they had advanced and that they had committed an aggression and stressed that they would not stop their aggression but continue with it until they were satisfied. The United Nations and its Security Council did not utter a word. When the forces of Islam regained Khorramshahr, the world awoke from its sleep. This included the Security Council. Then they realized that the situation was not as it appeared initially. The combatants of Islam were determined to secure their rights. From this point onward, the United Nations started to adopt resolutions and now it has become a supporter of peace, against war, an opponent of aggression and bloodshed. Where were you before? Under such circumstances, doesn't the Iranian nation have the right to be sceptical toward the United Nations, especially its Security Council?

What action have you taken so far that today you expect the Iranian nation, which has committed no sin but only wishes to live in freedom and free from American and other powers' influence, to adopt a favorable view of you? We are extremely sceptical toward the Security Council and we will not accept any resolution that ignores our just right. We will reject that resolution for obvious reasons.

The UN mission came to Iran. It toured the war-stricken cities, it prepared a report in which it openly and categorically stated that Iraq had committed an act of aggression, that Iraq had destroyed our cities, and that allegations made against Iran were baseless. The report was submitted to the United Nations and the United Nations paid no attention to that report.

Today our defenseless cities are under Iraq's long-range missiles, heavy artillery fire, killing 50, 100 of our people. But the United Nations and all other international organizations are not moving their lips. They have not pronounced a word of objection. Don't they know? Aren't they aware of the tragic event in Behbahan and Masjad Solcyman. Saddam has openly stated that he will hit our cities and he made this assertion in the aftermath of our victory in the Val-Fajr IV operation. Didn't the world hear him. If it has heard him, shouldn't it ask on the basis of what logic and in accordance with what international convention civilian cities should answer for defeat sustained in the battlefield.

We have the right not to trust the United Nations. The world should know that we have a right to firmly reject the Security Council's resolution and, in the long term, we have the right to oppose the right of veto enjoyed by the big powers at the Security Council. [Crowd chants slogans of God is great, Death to America, Death to the Soviet Union, and We will continue with our opposition.] [end recording]

Continuing his second sermon, Hojjat ol-Islam Khamene'i said: In fact, in supporting Saddam, the big powers do not feel pity for Saddam, but they are thinking of their own interests. For instance, the reason that France is supporting Iraq is to be able to collect its debts.

Tehran's Friday imam then referred to the superpowers' hue and cry with regard to the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz: They have raised this cry because their interests have been endangered. During the oil spillage from the Nowruz oil fields, we wanted that region free from attack to cap the leak. Iraq not only did not respond positively, but brought our civilian experts, who had gone to stop the spillage, under its fire and martyred 11 of them, and no one objected. Arms, ammunition, tanks, and missiles are constantly moving toward Iraq and we are constantly threatened by Super Etendards and so forth. Have you the right to threaten us without us having the same right?

Addressing some of the Persian Gulf rulers in response to their concern about the possible closure of the Strait of Hormuz, Hojjat-ul-Islam Khamene'i said: We did not start this dangerous play. It was you. With your help and assistance, Iraq has imposed so much damage on us and on its own people. We did not want to go to war with you and do not wish to. When did we declare war on you, when did we threaten you? Why have you sided with our enemy? Stay aside, let the fate of war be determined in the way aggressor deserves. We have not been a warmonger and will never be one. We wish to live in our country in peace and to realize the principles by which we stand, Islamic principles, in our country. But if war is waged against us we have already shown that from our side, there will be no retreat.

Tehran's Friday imam stressed: The world must realize that the United States nowadays is sinking in a deep crisis. The superpowers are living with the noise of their empty drums and are ensnared in the Far East, in Africa, in Latin America, in the Middle East, and in Europe. The U.S. rulers have shown that they are unable to continue the traditional American power games and the U.S. empire can no longer be maintained. Look at what a group of people, tired and fed up with America and Israel, are doing in Lebanon. The incident in Lebanon was a heavy blow to the ruling circles in America. Following Vietnam, the American people are no longer prepared to hear news of the deaths of their sons. What interest do people of America have in harming the people of Lebanon and in the deaths of their sons? This pain is directly derived by the American people from their ruling circles, examples can be seen everywhere. That is why their weakness and impotence result in madness, and Iraq, in pursuing its criminal actions, is not exempt from the rules governing its masters.

Marchers Protest Iraqi Attacks on Civilian Areas

GF281803 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Text] Sananda, Oct. 28, IRNA — Thousands of people staged a march here today to protest the crimes of Iraqi Ba'hist regime in the southern and western cities of Andimeshk, Dezful, Behbahan, Marivan and Baneh today.

The demonstrators shouted slogans against Saddam and his Western and Eastern supporters, for Iraq's brutal attacks upon civilian targets and cities. Expressing support for the Islamic combatants and the fourth stage of Val Fajr operations, they voiced their hatred for the lackey groups of the region and called on their deviated supporters to embrace Islam.

A similar march was held in Bijar, in Kordestan Province, denouncing Saddam's missile attacks upon residential areas and the counterrevolutionary groups.

Majlis Deputy Comments on Persian Gulf Security

GF281323 Tehran Keyhan in Persian 10 Oct 83 P 22

[Excerpts] According to a report by the *Keyhan's* parliamentary correspondent, the first preagenda speaker in the Majlis yesterday was 'Ali Mohammad Basharti, deputy from Jahrom. During his speech, he referred to the delivery of the five Super Etendard aircraft by France to the Zionist Ba'hist regime of Iraq and dwelt on the importance of the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.

He said: The Islamic Republic of Iran is the most powerful country in the region and nobody can deny its control and supervision over the Persian Gulf and the Oman Sea. Therefore, we should keep an eye on any move which takes place in this region. Just as our glorious revolution has brought imperialism and America to its knees, it will give a slap to Marxism and socialist imperialism. Marxism, for the propaganda and progress of which billions of dollars have been spent, has come to naught with the advent of our system and establishment.

Now both superpowers, East and West, shoulder to shoulder, have risen against our revolution and we should not let their plans fructify. We have complete control over the Strait of Hormuz, which has a width of only 27 km, and so far we have guarded this waterway. We will not let any power justify its military presence in the Oman Sea and the Persian Gulf on the excuse of keeping peace.

On the same ground, we should not let ships carrying Soviet missiles pass through this waterway and wreak havoc over our people. We should not let the superpowers create more difficulties for us because we are a nation which has taken its inspiration from Imam Hoseyn and all our days are 'Ashura and all our months are Moharram.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Issues Communiques

Communique No 1,518

LD281827 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 Oct 83

[Communique No 1,518 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday, in the Val-Fajr IV operational regions, heavy exchanges of fire continued and the victorious forces of Islam, while consolidating and establishing their own positions, opened fire on enemy positions and their supply routes, as a result of which a number of Iraqi soldiers were killed and one of their ammunition depots was destroyed. Also, the activities and movements of the Saddamist forces in this region were halted by our forces' fire. On the border fronts of

Bakhtaran, our combatants defended the areas under their protection and kept a check on enemy activities by maintaining constant watch. Whenever the time was ripe, our forces opened fire on the enemy and disrupted enemy activities.

On the southern fronts, our forces' fire yesterday stopped enemy supply and engineering activities, and the efforts of patrol groups dispatched by the Saddamist forces to penetrate the defensive positions of the forces of Islam were foiled. In the operational regions of Abadan and Khorramshahr, the combatants of Islam kept the positions and fortifications of the enemy — situated on the other side of the Arvand Rud — under fire and succeeded in silencing the fire of the Iraqi forces while destroying a number of enemy infantry positions and killing a number of Saddamists.

Yesterday, as a result of the enemy's long-range and heavy weapons fire, three houses caught fire in Abadan.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,519

*LD291832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
29 Oct 83*

[Communique No 1,519 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. At 1300 today, one of the aggressive planes of the Iraqi Armed Forces was hit by the fire of the fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran and of the antiaircraft defense units in the Kholuzeh region north of Marivan and was downed.

Yesterday, exchanges of fire on the Val-Fajr IV operational fronts continued and the victorious combatants of Islam, while maintaining contact with the deteriorating Iraqi forces, followed their movements and inflicted considerable damage and casualties on the enemy reserve units and the units on the frontline by keeping them under constant fire. Also, the victorious warriors of Islam are continuing to consolidate their defensive positions and to dispatch patrol groups to the enemy's defense lines on these fronts.

On the operational fronts of Piranshahr, Hajj 'Umrān, and Sar Dasht, sporadic exchanges of artillery and heavy weapons fire between the Iraqi forces and our own continued and the intensity of fire in the region of Heights 2,519 was greater than on other fronts. The proud soldiers of Islam returned enemy fire by opening fire on their positions, units, supply routes, and battery positions; they silenced enemy fire. Our forces prevented troop and supply movements of the Saddamist forces, killed 20 of them, destroyed an ammunition depot belonging to the Saddamist mercenaries, and demolished a number of their entrenchments.

On the southern and western fronts of the country, the combatants of Islam were busy defending and fortifying their posi-

tions and returning enemy artillery and heavy weapons fire. On these fronts, our forces silenced enemy fire, destroyed a number of vehicles of the Ba'thist Iraqi mercenaries and some of their positions, entrenchments, and personnel on the Bakhtaran border fronts, and prevented all enemy troop movements. The intensity of the exchange of fire in Qasr-e Shirin was greater than on other fronts.

On the southern fronts, our forces succeeded in identifying enemy activities and positions and dealing effective blows to the Saddamist forces by dispatching patrol groups at different times. On the Abadan and Khorramshahr fronts, sporadic exchanges of fire continued and the combatants of Islam silenced the artillery and heavy weapons fire of the Saddamists by returning their fire and prevented enemy vehicle traffic on the Faw-Basrah axis, killing or wounding a number of the aggressive Ba'thist forces. Four enemy foxholes and slit trenches were set on fire and destroyed.

Yesterday, the city of Abadan came under the fire of the enemy's long-range weapons, as a result of which several houses and shops and city installations were damaged.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Communique No 1,520

*LD301754 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT
30 Oct 83*

[Communique No 1,520 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Yesterday, in the Val-Fajr IV operational region, the combatants of Islam, while maintaining complete control over their positions, opened heavy artillery fire and crushed enemy activities. In Piranshahr, Hajj 'Umrān, and Sar Dasht, the fire of our units on enemy positions and supply routes destroyed three vehicles and one ammunition dump of the Iraqi forces and killed 10 of the mercenaries.

On the border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam, the combatants of Islam, while defending their positions and regions, set fire to two trucks carrying Iraqi soldiers.

In the operational region of Abadan and Khorramshahr, our combative forces opened fire on enemy positions west of the Arvand Rud, destroyed several heavy and light weapons emplacements, and killed or wounded several of the aggressors.

Yesterday, enemy long-range heavy weapons fire on residential districts in Abadan damaged three houses.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Clandestine Radios Cite Attack on Bazargan's Office**Radio Iran**

GF291700 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT
29 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Reports reaching Tehran state that under orders from the IRP, about 300 hezbollahis bore down on the office of the Nehzat-e Azadi. They broke down the doors and windows of the building containing the office of Mehdi Bazargan, first prime minister of Ruhollah Khomeyni, and according to the members of the organization, caused immense losses.

The colleagues of Mehdi Bazargan labeled the IRP members ruffians and said that this barbaric step was to foil the seminar which was to be held to lobby for freedom in the elections. The seminar had met with opposition from Interior Minister Nateq-Nuri.

It may be recalled that a year ago, the Nehzat-e Azadi was the only group which (seconded) the presence of Nateq-Nuri in the government and when his interpellation was repeatedly demanded in the Islamic Majlis, political observers considered this a personal reckoning. It is said in Tehran that the hezbollahis ransacked everything, shouting: Death to Bazargan; After Kianuri, Bazargan. The guards did not intervene and allowed the hirelings of the Islamic Republic to destroy everything.

Free Voice of Iran

GF301722 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian
1500 GMT 30 Oct 83

[Text] Following the attack on the Nehzat-e Azadi office in Tehran, by the regime's hirelings, Engineer Mehdi Bazargan did not attend the open session of the Islamic Majlis. His absence has once again sparked off rumors about his having gone underground.

The Free Voice of Iran correspondent adds: In a letter sent to Hashemi-Rafsanjani by Engineer Mehdi Bazargan, he protested against the attack on the Nehzat-e Azadi office by hooligans and has requested the Majlis speaker to discuss this with Khomeyni and to seek his opinion on the attack on the Nehzat-e Azadi office.

According to the same report, in today's open Majlis session Mostafa Naseri, the mullahs' deputy from Zanjan who was a preagenda speaker, referred to the attack on the Nehzat-e Azadi office by the hezbollahis and denounced it, saying: Such acts damage the Islamic Revolution and reflect an irresponsible approach to problems. He added: We should not give such opportunities to the hypocrite, liberal, and defeatist elements.

It should be noted that the silence of Tehran's mullahs regarding the attack on Bazargan's Nehzat-e Azadi office continues.